



NEWS RELEASE

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Chapman Housing Meeting Successful

Home Building, Home Repair, Energy Efficiency, and Credit Counseling Covered

Topeka, KS - Nearly 80 individuals interested in learning more about rebuilding affordable housing attended the Chapman Housing Meeting held July 24th, at the Parish Center in Chapman. The meeting, hosted by USDA Rural Development and Astra Bank, had representation from the City of Chapman, FEMA, SBA, the Kansas Department of Agriculture, United Way, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Chapman Area Long Term Recovery, and FHLBTopeka. Congressional staff also addressed the area residents. Information was provided to assist residents, including homeowners, evaluate their various financing and rebuilding options following the June 11 tornado that struck the community.

"The Chapman housing meeting was a great success. I was pleased with the attendance of Chapman residents, and the participation of all housing partners. USDA Rural Development is looking forward to helping returning residents to find programs to help finance their new home or undertake home repairs which may include the Agency's low interest loan and grant programs. Some programs have been expanded to allow the Agency more flexibility to assist in home financing, including providing for more energy efficiency options," commented USDA Rural Development State Director Chuck Banks.

Kyle Campbell, President & CFO of Astra Bank, remarked about the Chapman Housing Meeting, "I was very impressed with the Housing Meeting. There was a lot of good information available to help Chapman residents make informed decisions on rebuilding their homes."

Individuals interested in learning more about USDA Rural Development affordable housing programs available to assist Chapman residents should contact the Agency's Manhattan office at (785) 776-7582 (extension #4).

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs that support increasing economic opportunities and enhancing the quality of life for rural Americans. USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure in rural America. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development has delivered over \$1.2 billion to Kansans covering all Agency programs, supporting well over \$6 billion in future economic development for the Sunflower State. For additional information regarding all USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Agency at 785-271-2700 or visit the Agency's Kansas website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks.

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